

October 29, 2008

Dear Lake Quinsigamond/Flint Pond Abutter:

The Lake Quinsigamond Commission plans to lower the water level, or *draw down*, Lake Quinsigamond and Flint Pond in two weeks, on or shortly after Wednesday, November 12, 2008. The Irish Dam in Grafton will be lowered two or three inches a day until the water elevation in Lake Quinsigamond and Flint Pond is twenty-four to thirty inches lower than normal. The purpose of the drawdown is to expose the roots of nuisance aquatic vegetation proliferating in Lake Quinsigamond and Flint Pond to freezing temperatures and thereby reducing some of the heavy weed growth along the shoreline and in the shallow areas of the lake and pond.

This proposal has been subject to public hearings and is approved by the Conservation Commissions in Worcester, Grafton and Shrewsbury and the MA Department of Environmental Protection. This is your notice that the 2008-2009 drawdown is about to begin. You will be notified two weeks prior to the end of the drawdown in the spring. Lake Quinsigamond and Flint Pond will be refilled by April 2009.

The Conservation Commissions require the following statements:

- a.) The exposed bank and bottom of the lake and pond are a protected resource under the Wetlands Protection Act and the filling or dredging of the lake and pond bottom is prohibited. Homeowners may remove trash and debris materials using non-mechanical methods. Disposal of the debris is the responsibility of the homeowner. Debris must be disposed offsite in accordance with all local, state, and federal laws and regulations.
- b.) All boats should be removed from the water a minimum of two days prior to the drawdown date to prevent damage.
- c.) Homeowner care should be given to docks and shoreline structures to prevent damage from flowing ice.

Property owners may make repairs to structures or walls on the shoreline and remove debris from the exposed bottom during drawdown. However, residents that plan to make repairs that require more than hand tools must file a Notice of Intent with their local Conservation Commission and obtain the necessary permits before making the repairs.

If you need any additional information regarding the drawdown, please do not hesitate to call Brad Stone in the Shrewsbury Engineering Department at 508-841-8502, or the Conservation Commission in Grafton at 508-839-5335 x 138, or Nancy Allen in the Shrewsbury Health Department at 508-841-8512.

Very truly yours,

Nancy Allen  
For the Lake Quinsigamond Commission